

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SS-15 EUR-12 L-03 SP-02 IO-13 PM-05

NSAE-00 INR-07 /070 W

-----088428 080102Z /64/46

Z O 071930Z DEC 77 ZFF4

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS FLASH

INFO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2543

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0666

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR ACTION/INFO ADDEES ADDING
BRUSSELS AS ACTION AND USNATO AS INFO VICE ACTION)

FOR SECRETARY VANCE FROM STANLEY RESOR

TO BE DELIVERED TO THE SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: FRG VIEWS ON NEXT MOVES IN MBFR

1. REGARDING NEXT MOVES IN MBFR, FRG REP BEHREND'S
INFORMED ME THIS AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 7, THAT FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER HAS DECIDED THAT THE FRG SHOULD NOT AGREE TO PUT
FORWARD THE NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE UNLESS THE DATA
EXCHANGE NOW UNDER DISCUSSION HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE. GENSCHER
HAS ALSO DECIDED THAT THE PROPOSED SOVIET STATEMENT IN
CONNECTION WITH EXCHANGE OF DATA MUST BE AMENDED IN ORDER TO
BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG. FRG STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL HAS
APPROVED THE FOLLOWING CHANGE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF GENSCHER'S
INSTRUCTIONS. IN PARA 1 OF THE PROPOSED STATEMENT, DELETE
THE PHRASE QUOTE SUGGESTIONS MADE IN THE EASTERN PROPOSAL
OF OCTOBER 25, 1977, AS WELL AS FIGURES PROPOSED IN THE

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SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION: UNQUOTE AND REPLACE IT WITH THE
PHRASE QUOTE THE DISCUSSION OF THE EASTERN STATEMENT OF
OCTOBER 25: UNQUOTE.

2. VAN WELL HAS AUTHORIZED FRG REP BEHREND'S TO PRESENT
THIS FORMUAL TO SOVIET REP TARASOV IN VIENNA. BEHREND'S
HAS APPOINTMENT WITH TARASOV AT 9:30 TOMORROW MORNING,

DECEMBER 8. BEHRENDT HAS AGREED TO INFORM US IMMEDIATELY OF THE OUTCOME AND ALSO TO REPORT THE RESULTS TO VAN WELL AT BRUSSELS. BEHRENDT WILL TELL SOVIET REP TARASOV THAT IT IS THE NATIONAL FRG POSITION THAT THE INITIATIVE SHOULD NOT BE PUT FORWARD BEFORE THE DATA EXCHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE AND THAT THE STATEMENT PROPOSED BY TARASOV WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG.

3. IT WOULD BE A GOOD DEVELOPMENT IF THE SOVIETS WERE TO AGREE TO THIS CHANGE. BUT I BELIEVE THEY ARE HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO DO SO. THIS IS BECAUSE THE REFERENCE TO THE QUOTE DISCUSSION UNQUOTE OF THE EAST'S OCTOBER 25 PROPOSAL IN THE FRG FORMULA REFERS AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE THE WEST'S NOVEMBER 9 STATEMENT IN VIENNA THAT THE WEST WAS RESERVING THE RIGHT TO REPEAT ITS REQUEST FOR ACROSS-THE-BOARD EXCHANGE OF DATA ON ALL MAJOR FORMATIONS. TO AMEND THE PROPOSED EASTERN STATEMENT IN THIS WAY WOULD NOT PROVIDE SOVIET REP TARASOV WITH THE PROTECTION HE IS SEEKING THROUGH HIS STATEMENT AGAINST A REPETITION OF THIS WESTERN PROPOSAL AS SOON AS THE DATA NOW UNDER DISCUSSION IS EXCHANGED.

4. I DO NOT WISH TO ANTICIPATE THE OUTCOME OF YOUR DISCUSSION WITH THE GERMANS, BUT IF AFTER DISCUSSION YOU AND DR. OWEN CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO GO ALONG WITH BENSCHER'S POSITION, THEN, IN ORDER TO GIVE WESTERN NEGOTIATORS SOME LEVERAGE TO GAIN ITS ACCEPTANCE, I SUGGEST THAT THE MINISTERS SHOULD APPROVE
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THE TIMING OF THE WESTERN INITIATIVE TO PERMIT ITS PRESENTATION IN VIENNA AS SOON AS THE EAST HAS AGREED TO A REVISION OF THE PROPOSED EASTERN ORAL STATEMENT ALONG THE LINES OF THE FRG SUGGESTED AMENDMENT. AND THIS AMENDMENT SHOULD BE THE SOLE PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE OR COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED EASTERN STATEMENT WHICH IS ADVANCED BY THE WEST AT THIS TIME. RESOR

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NNN

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